

The Carnegie Mellon University

WASHINGTON SEMESTER PROGRAM

CMU/WSP

From embassy headquarters to non-governmental organizations, think tanks to advocacy organizations, and consulting firms to media outlets, Washington, DC, is a focal point for many international and public policy activities.

Undergraduates from any course of study who would value firsthand policy experience are invited to apply to the Carnegie Mellon University Washington Semester Program (CMU/WSP), sponsored by the university's Institute for Politics and Strategy. In this semester-long program, students live, work, and study in Washington, DC, coming into direct contact with political, business, and community leaders and learning about the most pressing policy issues of the day.

Students earn 48 units for the CMU/WSP, interning 25 hours per week in any sector or field of interest within Washington, DC, while taking CMU classes. The Institute for Politics and Strategy sponsors events and forums for students to enhance their understanding of Washington as a hub of national and international policy making.

“INTERNING IN WASHINGTON, DC, GAVE ME THE PRIVILEGE TO EXPLORE MY INTERESTS IN HUMAN RIGHTS, INTERACT WITH SKILLED AND MOTIVATED PEERS, AND ATTEND LECTURES GIVEN BY RENOWNED DIPLOMATS. THIS EXPOSED ME TO THE VARIOUS FIELDS IN THE POLICY SECTOR THAT I AM NOW CONSIDERING AS CAREER OPTIONS.”

IAN ASENJO, DC '18
CMU/WSP, FALL 2016
INTERNSHIP: WASHINGTON
OFFICE ON LATIN AMERICA

INTERNSHIPS

APPLICATION TIMELINE

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2019
Information Session*

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2019
Information Session*

MONDAY, APRIL 1, 2019
CMU/WSP Application Deadline

* Information sessions will take place
in Baker Hall 154R from 4:30-5:15p.m.
Refreshments will be provided.

Through the CMU/WSP, students gain valuable professional experience and make long-lasting professional and personal contacts. The CMU/WSP welcomes students with a wide array of backgrounds and interests, and students may pursue available internships in any sector or field in the Washington, DC, area.

Students participating in the CMU/WSP will intern three days per week for approximately 24-25 hours per week. The ultimate responsibility for securing an internship rests with the individual student. The internship search process is an important part of the professional development experience.

The CMU/WSP provides support to students in securing internships. After acceptance into the program, students will meet individually with the CMU/WSP Executive Director to develop a personalized internship search strategy. The CMU/WSP will assist with placement in or referral to specific internships and will help in crafting cover letters, résumés, writing samples, and mock interviews.

CMU/WSP APPLICATION COMPONENTS

CMU/WSP application form

One-page essay

Current résumé

Approval from academic advisor

Unofficial CMU Transcript

Two letters of recommendation

Application materials are available at
cmu.edu/ips/cmuwsp

All application materials must be submitted by
Monday, April 1, 2019, to Emily Half, Deputy Director.

FRIEDMAN FELLOWSHIPS

Students with strong academic records and financial need who are accepted to the CMU/WSP are also eligible for a Friedman Semester Fellowship, which helps to defray the cost of a semester in Washington, DC.

The Milton and Cynthia Friedman Fellowship Grants were created through a generous gift from Cynthia Friedman, currently a trustee of the university, in memory of her husband Milton, an alumnus of Carnegie Mellon. The grants encourage and support student participation in internships located in the nation's capital. They are designed to foster significant work experiences that complement students' academic studies and assist them as they make career and graduate education decisions. During the fall and spring semesters, fellowships are available on a competitive basis to undergraduates accepted into the CMU/WSP. There is no separate application process for the Friedman Fellowship. Award decisions are made by the admissions committee based on the strength of students' CMU/WSP applications.

CMU/WSP ELIGIBILITY

Full-time undergraduates from any college at Carnegie Mellon University are eligible to apply.

Applicants should demonstrate a strong academic record with a minimum cumulative QPA of 3.0. Exceptions may be made for students with lower QPAs based on strong recommendation letters and application materials.

The junior year is the ideal time to participate in the CMU/WSP. However, the program is open to second-semester sophomores, juniors, or first-semester seniors. Sophomores must declare a primary major before attending the CMU/WSP.

MALE AND FEMALE PERCENTAGES

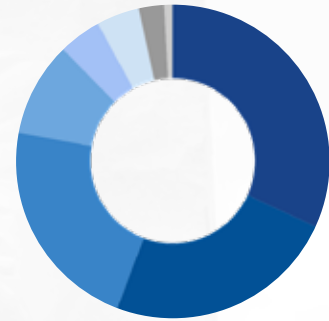
54%



46%



INTERNSHIP BREAKDOWN



THINK TANK

Brookings Institution; Heritage Foundation; Environment and Energy Studies Institute

CONGRESSIONAL

Senate Foreign Relations Committee; Office of Senator Bob Casey; Office of Senator Pat Toomey

FEDERAL/LOCAL AGENCY

Department of Justice; Department of State; White House Council of Economic Advisors

LEGAL/ADVOCACY

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; Polaris Project; Vera Institute for Justice

MUSEUM/ARTS

Kennedy Center for the Arts; Ford's Theatre; Smithsonian Institution

EMBASSY

Embassy of France, Embassy of Mexico, Embassy of Peru

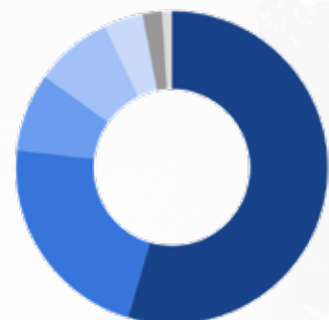
MEDIA

C-SPAN; Center for Budget and Policy Priorities

BUSINESS

Venga Start-Up

MAJOR BREAKDOWN



DIETRICH, NON-IPS IPS CIT ECON/TEPPER MCS CFA CS

ACADEMICS

Carnegie Mellon students who participate in the CMU/WSP will earn a total of 48 units through the Institute for Politics and Strategy. All courses are taught by Carnegie Mellon faculty. Students will intern three days a week or approximately 24-25 hours and take classes the remaining days and some evenings. The academic program consists of the following:

CORE COURSES (24 units total)

- 84-450 Policy Forum (12 units)
- 84-360 Internship Seminar (12 units)

ELECTIVE SEMINARS (24 units total)

Offerings vary each semester. The anticipated fall 2019 elective seminars are:

- 84-340 Making Change: How Organized Interests Work in Washington (12 units)
- 84-330 The Shading of Democracy: The Influence of Race on American Politics (6 units)
- 84-346 Legal Issues in Public Administration (6 units)

POLICY FORUM

Carnegie Mellon University's Policy Forum seminar takes a critical look at Washington, DC, as an arena for decision making in domestic politics and US foreign policy. It does so through weekly roundtable discussions with a diverse set of thought leaders. Based on intellectually significant essays that students are expected to read in advance of each class, these discussions give students an opportunity to ask probing questions about the three branches of the US government, media, embassies, advocacy groups, international organizations, and nongovernmental organizations.

INTERSHIP SEMINAR

The internship is the experiential "core" of the Washington Semester Program. In addition to a part-time internship, students will meet in the weekly seminar to report and reflect on their internship experiences, often joined by DC-based CMU alumni working in a variety of professional fields. The internship and internship seminar require approximately 27-28 hours per week.

MINOR IN POLITICS AND PUBLIC POLICY

Students who participate in the CMU/WSP are eligible to complete the Politics and Public Policy minor. Rooted in the discipline of political science, the minor investigates US public policy issues and other matters of domestic politics while providing students hands-on and practical learning experiences.

In addition to 48 units earned by CMU/WSP participation, students must complete one course from the following list of courses offered at Carnegie Mellon University's Pittsburgh or

Qatar campus. Students may take this course before or after participating in the CMU/WSP:

- 84-104 Decision Processes in American Political Institutions
- 84-275 Comparative Politics
- 84-326 Theories of International Relations

HOUSING ON THE HILL

Students will live in the Senate Square Building as part of the Washington Intern Housing Network (WIHN). The residence is a quick 15-minute walk to the CMU/WSP offices and a 5-minute walk to Union Station and the metro, providing easy access to all of Washington, DC.

Each apartment houses six to seven students and includes a living room, three bedrooms, two bathrooms, and a kitchen. The apartments are fully furnished and equipped with standard kitchen appliances, cookware, and dinnerware, an in-unit washer and dryer, cable and high-speed Internet. Students may take advantage of the on-site fitness facilities, mailboxes, lounge areas, 24-hour concierge service, media room, business center, and rooftop pool and lounge area. A grocery store is also located next to the Senate Square facility.

PROGRAM COST

Students who attend the CMU/WSP will continue to pay Carnegie Mellon tuition, the standard double room fee, and other fees to Carnegie Mellon for the semester in which they are in Washington, DC. Students are eligible to receive the same financial aid package they receive while attending Carnegie Mellon. To discuss specifics of financial aid packages, please contact The HUB.

FACULTY LEAD

Dr. Kiron Skinner, Director, Institute for Politics and Strategy
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CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY
WASHINGTON SEMESTER PROGRAM
CMU.EDU/IPS/CMUWSP

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